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Michelle E. Stora  
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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 16904-727

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application

Inventor(s): Edward W. Knowlton

Application No.: 09/003,098

Filed: January 6, 1998

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONTROLLED  
CONTRACTION OF COLLAGEN TISSUE

) PATENT APPLICATION

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) Art Unit: 3731

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) Examiner: Not Assigned

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Listed below or on an attached Form PTO-1449 is information known to applicant(s). A copy of each listed publication and U.S. and foreign patent, except for pending U.S. applications, is being submitted herewith, along with a concise explanation of information in a foreign language, if any, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97-1.98.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed information be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the above-identified application. If form PTO-1449 is enclosed, the Examiner is requested to initial and return it in accordance with MPEP § 609.

This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56.

X This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (b) because (check all that apply):

— (1) It is being filed within 3 months of the application filing date  
-- OR --

— (2) It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage  
-- OR --

X (3) It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action on the merits.

— 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c). If this statement is being filed after the latest of: (1) three months beyond the filing date of a national application; (2) three months beyond the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application; or (3) the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, but before the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under §1.113 or a notice of allowance under §1.311, then:

— a certification as specified in §1.97(e) is provided below; or

— a fee of \$240.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

— 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d). If this statement is being filed after the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under §1.113 or a notice of allowance under §1.311, but before payment of the issue fee, then:

A. a certification as specified in §1.97(e) is completed below; and

B. a petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d) requesting consideration of this statement is submitted herewith; and

C. a fee of \$130.00 as set forth in §1.17(i)(1) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

X *Fee Authorization.* The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge underpayment of any additional fees or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 23-2415 (16904-727). A duplicate copy of this authorization is enclosed.

Date: 6/1/98

Respectfully submitted,

WILSON SONSINI GOODRICH & ROSATI

By: Paul Davis

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